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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

29 APRIL 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles - Off-Duty LAPD Officer Shot in Shootout

(U) An off-duty Los Angeles police officer is in stable condition after being shot with his own service weapon during a "gun battle" with a suspect who allegedly stole the officer's gun and bulletproof vest from his personal car parked in a Sherman Oaks apartment garage, Chief Michel Moore said. The suspect was also injured during the exchange of gunfire and was taken into custody. The unidentified officer was coming down from an apartment to an underground garage where his personal vehicle was parked, when he and another person he was with noticed a man seated in the officer's vehicle wearing his bulletproof vest. As the officer confronted the man about the vehicle burglary, the altercation turned into a "gun battle" between the two men.

SOURCE: 28 April 2021, KTLA

(U) Los Angeles – US Arrests Alleged Bitcoin Money Launderer

(U) US officials on Tuesday arrested Roman Sterlingov, the alleged principal operator of cryptocurrency money laundering website Bitcoin Fog, according to a federal court filing. Sterlingov, a citizen of Russia and Sweden, was detained in Los Angeles on money-laundering related charges. Bitcoin Fog, launched in 2011, is one of the original Bitcoin "tumbler" or "mixer" services designed to help users anonymize cryptocurrencies payments, especially on so-called darknet online markets that trafficked in drugs and other illegal products, according to a legal statement accompanying the criminal complaint. SOURCE: 28 April 2021, Reuters

(U) Vacaville – Wildfire Intentionally Set to Cover Up Murder

(U) A 2020 wildfire in Northern California that killed two people was intentionally set to cover up a murder, officials said yesterday. The Markley Fire was set near a dam in Solano County where the burned body of Priscilla Castro, 32, was found, according to the Solano County sheriff's office and Vacaville police. Two other people, Douglas Mai, 82, and Leon "James" Bone, 64, were found dead from that fire in their homes, Sheriff Tom Ferrara said at a news conference. Victor Serriteno was arrested by Vacaville police in September 2020 and charged with murder in Castro's death, and prosecutors will file to add two more murder charges and arson charges, the district attorney said.

SOURCE: 28 April 2021, NBC News

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Georgia - Three Men Charged with Hate Crimes in Connection with Death of Ahmaud Arbery

(U) Atlanta – The US charged three men in Georgia yesterday with federal hate crimes and the attempted kidnapping of Ahmaud Arbery, a Black man who died last year after they gunned him down while he was jogging through a suburban neighborhood. The US Justice Department said that former police officer Gregory McMichael, 65, his son Travis McMichael, 35, and William "Roddie" Bryan, 51, were each charged with one count of interference with civil rights and with one count of attempted kidnapping.

SOURCE: 28 April 2021, Reuters

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(U) Michigan – WMD Charge Added for Three Men in Plot to Kidnap Governor

(U) Lansing – Three men accused in a plot to kidnap Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer have been indicted on charges of conspiracy to use a weapon of mass destruction, federal prosecutors said yesterday. The new charges against Adam Fox, Barry Croft Jr., and Daniel Joseph Harris center on an alleged plan to blow up a bridge near Whitmer's vacation home in order to hinder a police response during her planned abduction, according to a superseding indictment. Fox and Croft allegedly inspected the underside of the bridge for a place to put explosives in September 2020 while they were on their way to conduct "nighttime surveillance" of that home, the indictment alleges.

SOURCE: 28 April 2021, NBC News

(U) Minnesota - Man Sentenced to Four Years for Police Station Fire

(U) Minneapolis – A man has been sentenced to four years in prison and must pay \$12 million in restitution for his role in the lighting the Minneapolis Third Precinct police headquarters on fire during civil unrest after the death of George Floyd. Last May, Dylan Shakespeare Robinson, 23, trampled over a fence meant to keep protesters out and lit a Molotov cocktail, which another person threw toward the precinct, shortly after the crowd began shouting "Burn it down, burn it down," according to federal charges. Robinson pleaded guilty in December 2020 to one count of conspiracy to commit arson. As part of his sentence, he will serve two years of supervised release and must pay \$12 million in restitution. SOURCE: 28 April 2021, Tribune Publishing

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Burkina Faso – 18 Killed in Attack

SOURCE: 29 April 2021, Associated Press

(U) Ouagadougou – An attack by gunmen in Burkina Faso's north this week has killed at least 18 people and severely injured one, the government said. The attack Monday evening in Yattakou village in the Sahel region's Seno area has also caused many residents to flee, said Salfo Kabore, the Sahel region's governor in a statement. The attack happened the same day that two Spanish journalists and an Irish conservationist were killed and a Burkinabe soldier went missing when their anti-poaching patrol was ambushed by jihadists in the country's east.

(U) China – Two Children Killed, 16 People Stabbed at Kindergarten

(U) Beiliu – Chinese state media say two children were killed and 16 other people were injured by a knife-wielding attacker at a kindergarten in a southern city. The Xinhua News Agency said the attack occurred yesterday afternoon in a township outside Beiliu, a city in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. It said a suspect has been arrested and an investigation is underway. Two of those injured were being treated for serious injuries, it was unclear if the injured were children or adults. SOURCE: 28 April 2021, Associated Press

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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